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# The Daily Tar Heel

92nd year of editorial freedom

## The monster mash

Are today's college students becoming the increasingly conservative, materialistic, all-I-want-is-a-job monsters that everybody, especially nostalgic campus radicals of the '60s, tell us we are?

Well, according to a recent survey, the answer isn't as easy as Reagan's youth "mandate" might indicate. The 19th annual survey of freshman attitudes, "The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1984," was published yesterday, and the results are less than conclusive that today's college youth have bought this new conservatism hook, line and sinker.

While college students are indeed more materialistic than ever (which must come as no surprise to those trying to get into comp sci courses these days), they still tend to lean to the left on issues such as disarmament, women's rights and school integration.

The survey, based on responses from 182,370 students at 345 schools, is interesting both because of the contrast it invites with college students of the '60s and early '70s, and that it apparently contradicts the myth about today's students' right-wing brainwash.

The survey shows that being well off financially has risen from ninth place in 1970 to second place among personal values expressed by freshmen, with the aspiration to become authorities in their fields of interest as the most important value. However, slightly more freshmen labeled themselves "liberal" or "far left" than "conservative" or "far right": 22 percent against 20½ percent. (The rest considered themselves in the middle of the road.) Still, this year's figures are a long way from the nearly 2-to-1 edge liberals had over conservatives in the early '70s.

The political thrust of the survey is that students' views span both sides of the ideological spectrum. Students took a liberal stand on military spending, with fewer than ever thinking spending

should be increased; and a record low number, 22½ percent, felt "the activities of married women are best confined to the home and family," down from 56.6 percent in 1967. So much for our predecessor generation being All-Enlightened.

Nevertheless, support for abolishing the death penalty hit an all-time low, 26 percent, and only 23 percent support legalizing marijuana, down from 53 percent in 1977. Maybe the decline in support for pot is just a decline in the interest to smoke pot — it would be interesting to see the support for legalizing cocaine.

These figures can be interpreted in many ways, but it's hard not to agree with the survey's director, UCLA professor Alexander Astin, who says that it shows "there is no monolithic trend toward greater student conservatism as many pundits suggested during the recent presidential election."

Yes, we might be more materialistic (or at least more ready to admit it) than the students of the Vietnam era — putting more energy into our careers than rallies and protests — but claims that today's students have sold out and are abandoning all that is good for the twin "evils" of conservatism and materialism reek of self-righteousness.

Having a so-called conservative viewpoint on a particular issue should not be inextricably linked with materialism and self-interest, as some like to assert and as this survey appears to contradict. Nor should a liberal viewpoint on an issue be seen as automatically synonymous with a good social conscience and selflessness. The truth is that people are more complicated than that. Generalizations tend to lead to over-generalizations, and this certainly applies to all the fuss over today's new conservatism and the "downfall" of students' values.

## Airing the dirty laundry

Every once in a while, there comes a time when our worst fears become reality. It's the kind of day when national politics are mundane. When we've printed two CGC edits the day before and don't want to alienate our readers by writing more about campus issues. It's times like this when we throw everything into the wind and write a "gripe edit."

Like, what is the Fastbreak closed? Many a student groping his or her way to class would never be coherent before noon if it weren't for Fastbreak java. And what about running to grab a quick burger? The phrase takes on a whole new meaning since you now have to run up to Burger King if you want some real fast food.

Ticket distribution. Does it really have

to be so early in the morning? If distribution starts at 8, you have to be at Carmichael by 6, at the latest. Slowpokes who mosey in around 7 can forget it, might as well get to work on plans to watch the game on TV.

Closer to home, the water fountain outside the DTH office hasn't worked in weeks. The crusty paper towel with the scrawled "Out of Order" sitting on top is beginning to rot, and yet there's no indication that the fountain will ever be fixed. Thirsty DTH writers and editors must now climb stairs to the second floor or walk to the front of the Union, or resign to plunking 50 cents into the Coke machine. We need our water fix.

That's all.

The woman wrote: "Do you dissolve it in fruit juice followed by a glass of water, as the directions say, just before going to bed?"

An unusual question, perhaps, but not a surprising one, considering that it was addressed to a man who has worked miracles for Chrysler's bottom line.

### Rolling to victory

Normally, the DTH doesn't stoop to what some might call "bathroom humor," but with Lee Iacocca and laxatives in the preceding piece, we must make an exception . . .

An exception because this is a story of winners. America loves winners. Look at Mary Lou Retton: two perfect 10s and she's on the cover of a Wheaties box. Well, Mary Lou is no longer alone in the winner's circle. Any doubts about the patriotism of American productivity can now be laid to rest.

From Wisconsin Tissue Mills Inc. comes word that it has taken the Super Bowl of bathroom tissue: the world record for toilet-paper-production speed, at 6,300 feet a minute over a 24-hour period. The dethroned champions? A European operation out of West Germany.

His face flush with victory, Wisconsin Tissue President George Mueller had plenty to say about his crew's wipeout win. "I felt like the captain of a winning Olympic team. It's a source of pride to us as citizens of the U.S."

Victory is sweet, even in the world-class tissue competition. But Mueller better stay on his toes: the West Germans aren't likely to take this sitting down.

And that's the bottom line.

## If you can't pass the SALT, extend it

By GREGG BOGOSIAN

Last week in Geneva, Switzerland, Secretary of State George Schultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko met to lay the groundwork for the resumption of talks aimed at controlling the nuclear arms race. This meeting broke a 14-month silence on the subject between the two superpowers. The American people can take some of the credit for the reopening of the talks, as public pressure prompted the Reagan Administration to negotiate with the Soviets.

Another topic related to nuclear arms control and amenable to public pressure will arise later this year. This concerns the question of whether the U.S. should continue to adhere to the provisions of the unratified SALT II Treaty, due to expire on Dec. 31. A small group of senators and administration officials is putting pressure on President Reagan to let SALT II expire. Other officials are urging Reagan to extend the treaty limits for another five years.

Opposition to SALT II began in 1976 with the formation of the Committee on the Present Danger (CPD), a group opposed to any arms control agreements with the Soviets. Despite efforts by the CPD to derail SALT II negotiations, the new treaty was completed and went to the Senate for ratification in 1978. Meanwhile, CIA analyst David Sullivan had prepared a classified report on alleged Soviet violations of previous arms control treaties. Sullivan gave a copy of his report to Richard Perle, then an aide to SALT II opponent Sen. Henry Jackson. Perle leaked the report to the press, and the CPD used it to attack SALT II. This contributed to the Senate's refusal to ratify SALT II. Sullivan was fired from the CIA for his actions.

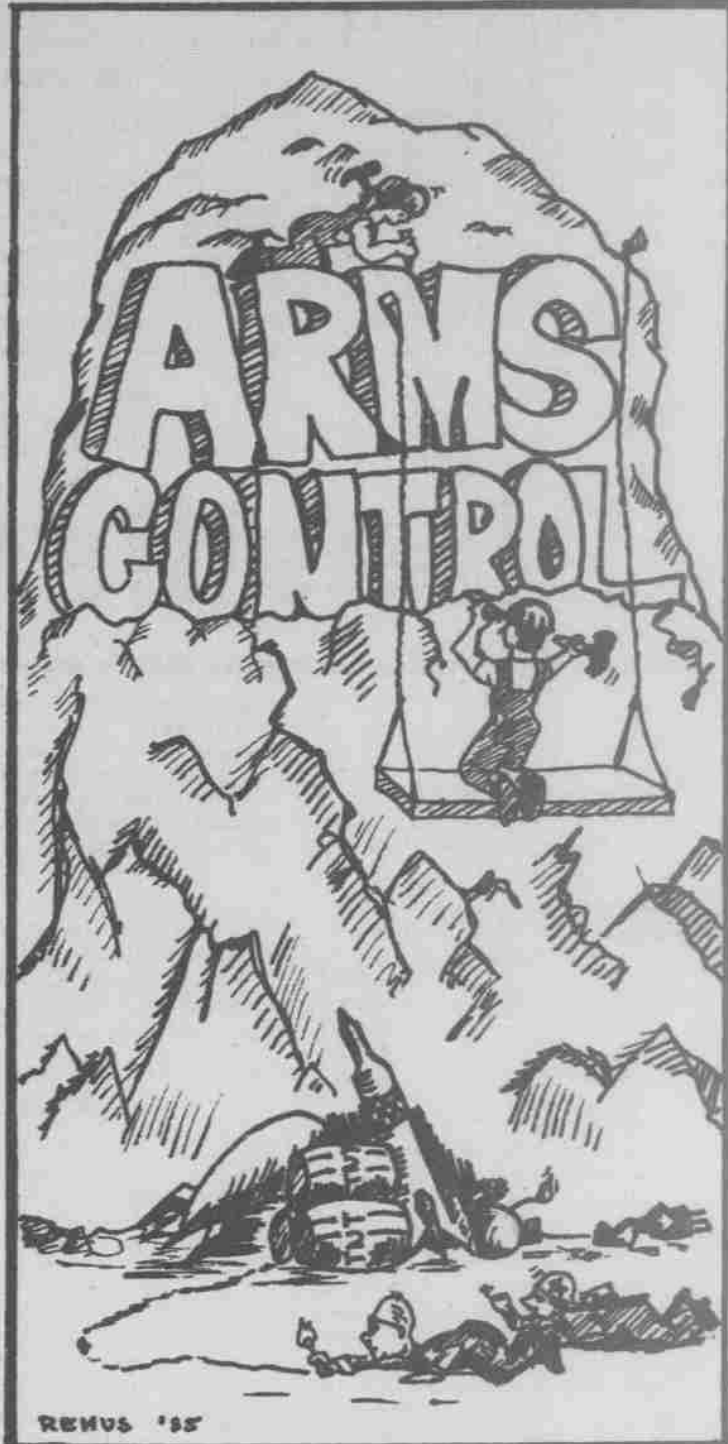
Shortly following his inauguration in 1981, Reagan appointed Sullivan to a post within the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), and Perle to Assistant Secretary of Defense. Two months later, Sullivan was fired from the ACDA by his supervisor, Robert Gray, who cited disruptive behavior as the reason for the dismissal. Sullivan was then hired as an advisor to Sens. James McClure and Jesse Helms, both opponents of SALT II. When Gray was nominated to become deputy director of the ACDA, his nomination was blocked by Helms and McClure.

SALT II opponents also include Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and presidential advisor Edwin Meese, who has said nuclear arms control "will be lucky if we let it get away with benign neglect." Supporters of the extension of SALT II include Secretary of State George Schultz and others within the State Department, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The JCS were told that if they didn't support Weinberger, Meese, and the ACDA in their struggles against the State Department, Perle would put aircraft which the

JCS wish to retain on the negotiating table. Perle has said that the JCS are "push-overs and patsies for whoever leans on them the last, the longest and the hardest." The JCS responded by stating that they are "acutely aware that the Soviets could add warheads to their missile force far more rapidly and menacingly than could the U.S. if SALT II limits were to go by the board" and that they "want a continuance of the adherence regime rather than deal with breakout on the Soviet side." To date, the JCS and the State Department have prevailed upon Reagan to continue to adhere to SALT II.

The most recent attempt to change Reagan's mind was led by Sens. Helms, McClure, Steven Symms and John East. They got the Senate to obtain the release in September 1984 of a report, written by the General Advisory Committee (GAC) of the ACDA, that is merely a rehash of the old Sullivan report of alleged Soviet treaty violations. The GAC is composed of 12 members appointed by Reagan, seven of whom are members of the CPD and all 12 of whom oppose SALT II. Reagan himself thought the report was biased, and released it with a covering letter in which he stated: "Neither the methodology of analysis nor the conclusions reached in this report have been formally reviewed or approved by any agencies of the U.S. government." Arms control experts who have reviewed the GAC report have concluded that all but three of the charges in it are erroneous or relate to earlier matters (such as the 1962 Cuban missile crisis) which have since been resolved. Of the other three charges, the first relates to a minor clause of the 1963 Limited Test Ban Treaty which the U.S. has also violated and which both sides consider insignificant and inadvertent; the second concerns a violation of SALT II which the Soviets themselves discovered and corrected; and the third concerns unsubstantiated violations of a minor and ambiguous clause of SALT II. Arms control experts feel that the GAC report is a politically motivated attempt to discredit SALT II, and that the charges it levies should in no way be construed as grounds for disregarding the treaty.

The major clauses of SALT II have been adhered to by both sides. Under the SALT II limits, both the U.S. and the USSR can have a maximum of 2,400 nuclear weapons launchers (missiles and bombers). Furthermore, there are limits on the number of warheads per launcher that allow the U.S. a maximum of about 14,000 warheads and the USSR a maximum of about 12,000 warheads. Once these limits are reached, new launchers and warheads can be added to the arsenals only by making room by dismantling old devices. The Soviets have adhered to these limits, dismantling over 200 SS-7 and SS-8 intercontinental ballistic missiles, 160 SS-N-6 submarine launched missiles, 308 SS-9 ICBMs, and 510 SS-11 ICBMs. The U.S. is currently dismantling its Titan ICBMs at the rate of one per month, until all 52 are gone, to make room



for the new MX ICBM.

Reagan's best course would be to continue to adhere to the SALT II limits while nuclear arms reduction talks are underway. The public can help bring about such a policy by contacting their representatives in the House and Senate and urging them to support the pro-arms-control wing of Reagan's advisors. Unfortunately for North Carolinians, there is not much point in contacting Helms or East for this purpose. However, I have talked to Rep. Bill Cobey, and he indicated his support for nuclear arms control. Concerned citizens should contact Cobey and the other members of the N.C. House delegation and urge them to support Schultz and his allies in their efforts to get Reagan to extend the SALT II limits.

Gregg Bogosian, a research fellow in the department of microbiology, is the UNC correspondent for the Federation of American Scientists, an arms control organization.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Abortion: a matter of personal choice, not law

To the editor:

Accepting the vocal, opinionated society we live in, I have read without much anger the numerous editorials condemning abortion. I respect those individuals who feel it to be unfair and unnecessary. These people have reached a decision which does not violate the values of their personal moral framework. Nevertheless, it is the religious and philosophical know-it-alls who employ sensational, emotional and often cruel persuasive tactics in hopes of outlawing abortion that have motivated my writing this letter. I feel an obligation to defend a woman's right to

make a decision — a personal, difficult decision. The numerous aspects of the procedure, ranging from the baby's rights to responsibility to God, that anti-abortionists dwell on deserve the mother's private consideration, not the condemnation of legality or politics.

Although I'm not aware of his rank in the University's academic army, I must criticize Board's propaganda-style article ("Sad Date," Jan. 10). Suggesting that women who terminate their pregnancies are simply trying to avoid cost and inconvenience reflects an insensitivity and a disturbing mentality that has no place in college leadership. He labels a woman

selfish and "barbaric" who decides to prevent an unwanted child from entering the world. I understand and support the women who realize their inability to properly care for a child, and their decision to save it from an unhappy life.

Board sees a "moral deficiency" and a "lack of love" in those who obtain abortions: the poor who cannot adequately clothe or feed a child and the young who are not emotionally or mentally prepared to provide proper care for a baby. Indeed, women outside these categories obtain abortions, also, each with a personal recognition that she cannot give a child the complex but necessary responsibilities of mother-

hood. These are the selfish baby-killers that must be stopped?

The opinions of some must not become the rules for all. The issue is too personal to serve as such a political theme. Few people are actually pro-abortion; it's an unfortunate and traumatic act we can hopefully lessen, if not eliminate, through more efficient sexual education. But all of us should be pro-choice, and respect the freedoms of our country which allows us to make our own decisions concerning such personal matters.

Stephen Young  
Ehringhaus

### Think again

To the editor:

If Elizabeth Larsehan ("III-Conceived," Jan. 14) is any indication, what letter writers need is not "more lengthy consideration," but more intelligent, honest and informed consideration of the abortion issue. Five examples: she asks if it is fair to bring into the world children "raised in poverty — unwanted, unloved, neglected." According to Monday's *Newsweek*, 70 percent of abortions are among white, middle-class women. More significantly, she is arguing that termination of life is preferable to poverty and neglect.

Secondly, she asks, "How can one kill that which is not yet alive?" I've never met a doctor who thought a fetus was anything but alive. Maybe she means not yet self-sustaining? The answer is easy: Poison him or her with a salt solution or dismember limb by limb with suction or scalpel.

Third: She says children have never had a choice regarding their own birth. The Constitution doesn't guarantee that right — but it does guarantee the right to life, which is our slogan. Pro-choice is theirs.

Fourth: Doctors are using their skills to the benefit of society. If doctors remembered their responsibility to be guardians of life and not social engineers, as Hippocrates said in an oath MD's used to honor, they would be repulsed at the destruction of innocent life. Instead, they earn close to \$1 billion a year.

Finally, she scoffs at the thought that we should want and love every child. For everyone like her who cannot comprehend such an ideal, there are two couples who wait an average of two years to love and cherish that young life which she would extinguish. Could she have been serious when she referred to pro-lifers as "selfish"?

Terryl L. Givens  
Chapel Hill



### Now, a message for line-breaking slimeballs

To the editor:

This letter is directed specifically to the five people I confronted for breaking into the Duke ticket line in front of Fetzer Gym, as well as all others who broke into the line in the early hours Sunday. The line starts in the back. If the back happens to be the Bell Tower, tough. You should have gotten up earlier.

I couldn't believe the number of people walking into the line looking for someone they knew so they could break in. If survival of the fittest is the name of the game,

consider this: There are 160 first year MBA students. If we all sat just one hour we could stake out a position for about a week. Then at 8 a.m. on ticket distribution day, all 160 will just slip in front all rested and warm. Too bad for the 160 freezing, tired suckers at the end of the line who don't get tickets. Is that how we want the ticket distribution system to work? I don't think so.

I can hear the guilty now: "Just one or two people is no big deal." It is a big deal. Let me describe it in terms you might understand better. How about, collaborating to take unfair advantage of other

students in a University-sponsored activity. Sound familiar? Can you say "Honor Code violation"? If I knew the names of the people who broke in front of me they would be fighting to keep their athletic privileges.

If I might indulge myself now, a little commentary. Breaking in line has no place at Carolina. The people who do it are low-life pond scum. They have no integrity. They are cheats and liars. They don't deserve to go to school here.

Carter Houchins  
Chapel Hill

### Letters?!

Letters and editorial columns should be typed on a 60-character line and should be triple-spaced. Contributions may be

placed in the DTH box located outside our office in the Carolina Union.

Letters must be received before 2 p.m. for the next day's publication.